


 The logo for the Clarke University Courier. It features a large, stylized yellow 'C' on the left, followed by the word 'CLARKE UNIVERSITY' in yellow capital letters, and 'Courier' in large, bold, black capital letters.

April 27, 2015

Dubuque, Iowa

Volume LXXXV

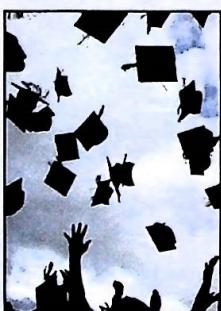
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NOW ON FB


Check out our Facebook page.

Grad is off to NY culinary school

Jenica Rubner
Staff Writer

Many famous chefs have gotten their start at the Culinary Institute of America, and one of Clarke's own students may be one of them.

Reid Johannsen, senior drama major, will be attending the Culinary Institute of America in High Park, New York, for the next four years. This is one of the top culinary schools, and boasts alums such as Food Network favorites Cat Cora and Duff Goldman. Reid begins his program July 7, just two months after graduating from Clarke.

"I'm excited to go somewhere new, have new experiences, and experiencing a new culture," Reid said. "And, of course, getting into the cooking."

Although looking forward to the big step, Reid also has some concerns. Being a thousand miles away from what he's always known is certainly a scary thought.

"I'm worried about going that far away by myself," Reid said. "I'm also really worried it will be a big culture shock."

Reid noted that this is his dream school, and he has wanted to be a chef since he was 5-years-old. Growing up in a farming area, cooking was a common activity among families. He recalls being inspired to become a chef while helping his family cook. "I remember always wanting to be in the



Senior Reid Johannsen snapped a selfie in front of the Culinary Institute of America where he will be beginning a degree in July. kitchen," Reid said. "I found there's happiness in food." As a freshman, Reid started the Culinary Club at Clarke. The club makes food for several events at Clarke, including the meal at the Homecoming game in the fall and for May Daze in the spring. Recently Clarke added a food science major to its list of programs. Unfortunately for Reid, the school officially got the major going his senior year. At that point, it was

too late for him to pursue the major that would most likely have helped him in his future endeavors at the Culinary Institute. "I was so devastated when I found out they were adding the food science major, and that it was starting my senior year," he said.

Even though he is unable to be a part of the food science major here at Clarke, Reid knows he is pursuing a lifelong dream. Ideally, he would like to become an executive chef at an upscale restaurant. He also wants to stay in the New England or East Coast area. Then he would like to take that dream a step further.

"I would like to open my own restaurant sometime down the road once I have the money and experience to be successful," he said.

Another very important factor in Reid's decision to go to culinary school was finances. Having gone to Clarke for four years and signing up for a four year program at the Culinary Institute meant a total of eight years of school to pay for. However, he was fortunate enough to get the Presidential Scholarship to attend culinary school, the school's biggest scholarship. He received the scholarship with the help of another alum of the Culinary Institute who also happens to be a familiar face on the Clarke campus.

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Students give dating app mixed reviews

Jayson Hinrichsen
Staff Writer

Looking to meet someone close to home? Check out Tinder, a dating app that allows you to view profiles of men or women based on their proximity to you. It was established in September 2012 but didn't go viral until 2014. An estimated 50 million people use Tinder every month, and there are over one billion profile swipes per day.

If you discover someone you are attracted to, you can swipe to the right on his or her profile. If that same person swipes right on your profile, then you can instantly start talking. If you are not attracted to the profile shown, you can swipe left and you will never see that profile again. According to TheChive.com, men will swipe right 47 percent of the time and women

will only swipe right 15 percent of the time, while left-handed users swipe right 27 percent more than righties.

Tinder has gained so much traction in 2015 that it currently has many users who check their Tinder accounts more than 11 times per day. Fifty percent of Tinder users are college students ranging from 18 to 24 years old according to the "Huffington Post."

According to a study by TheChive.com, if you are a male and have facial hair, you will generate 18 percent more swipes than the clean-shaven. For women, if you have blonde hair, you will get twice as many swipes as someone with brown hair.

It only takes a few seconds to create a Tinder account. As soon as you download

the app, Tinder connects to your Facebook page and creates an account for you.



Tinder does this to limit the number of fake profiles.

Tinder has many user-friendly benefits such as showing mutual friends. If you discover a profile you are interested in, you can view how many mutual friends you have in common.

However, if you don't have thick skin, you might want to avoid this app. You might swipe through and like 100 different profiles in hopes of finding a match, then time goes by and you might get one or

two matches but never start a conversation with that person, which could damage your confidence. (Tinder makes both the male and female swipe right on each other's profiles to begin a conversation. This is to ensure a positive match for both parties.)

Sean Rad and Justin Mateen designed Tinder when they were attending the University of Arizona. They were using an app called HotOrNot, which is similar to Tinder except HotOrNot keeps all your information anonymous. Soon Tinder was released to other college campuses and caught on like wildfire.

According to a study by TheChive.com, you are 54 percent more likely to hook up if you're within one mile of the other Tinder user.

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End of an era

Abdul Sinno, professor, entrepreneur, friend, retires

Joe Arms
Staff Writer

Abdul Sinno, professor of communication at Clarke, will be retiring at the end of this academic year. It's nearly impossible to describe the importance and effect Sinno has had on so many lives. But I'll try anyway. Let's start at the beginning.

In 1988, Sinno, Ph.D. graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, began to look for a local teaching position where he, his wife Melissa, and their three boys: Rafic, Omar and Ollie, could have the best education and social life.

Of the many institutions he visited, he found what he was looking for at Clarke. "I was looking for a caring college where students are not numbers and names on certificates. Certainly, Clarke was the successful end to my search; people here care," said Sinno.

Now, I could go on and explain how Sinno grew up in Lebanon, was given a scholarship from his country's government to continue his education here in the United States, returned to Lebanon to revamp the government radio station, and had regular meetings with the prime minister; but the best way to learn about Sinno is to speak to him.

If you've ever spoken to Sinno, you've probably never had your self-confidence raised so quickly and so high. It seems that every other sen-



Photo: Joe Arms

Abdul Sinno explains the theories of an integrated marketing campaign to his students.

tence is a compliment. But once you get past your own ego and start to realize that he's not just talking about your achievements and potential, you may just learn something. The stories of his life, which he frequently shares in class with his students, will teach you the meaning of hard work and ambition.

Sinno is the definition of a professor. His stories are full of wisdom, his concern brings a comforting support to his students, and, perhaps most characteristically of a professor, he loves to talk. For this article, I scheduled an interview with Sinno where I thought I was going to be taking notes on all of his stories. However, I found myself sitting in his office, my pen never having left the front pocket of my book bag.

During interviews, I usually have some sort of direction that I like to go with and am guiding the conversation, asking questions that have the best chance of providing interesting quotes.

Yet, when "interviewing" Sinno, I found myself answering his questions and following his lead, probably because I was caught off guard when he began to congratulate me for being offered a copywriter position at Plaid Swan and continued to tell me about the potential he knows I have. Once again, if you ever need some self-confidence, look up Sinno.

After we quickly raised my self-confidence, I remembered that this meeting was not about me. I was there to learn about Sinno and his

plans to retire from teaching.

I've always known that Sinno has held an outstanding rapport with his students. (It's one of the reasons why I switched majors to communication.)

"Abdul has always been a powerful motivator through his actions. The amount of drive and focus he has as a professor and entrepreneur has been something I've tried to instill in my own career," says Catherine Savitch, a 2014 Clarke grad with a major in communication and fine arts. I asked Sinno what he will miss most after being so successful in motivating individuals and sharing his love of knowledge with countless students over the years. "When I received the Menuve Dunham Award for Excellence

in Teaching, the certificate included one of my quotes 'Teaching is giving, sacrificing and caring; Teaching is a way of life,' he said. "I will miss this particular way in life, I will miss my students and colleagues."

Sinno has no intention of doing absolutely nothing after retirement. There are no beach side bungalow getaways planned, no week-long Caribbean cruises to look forward to.

What Sinno looks forward to most in life after retirement is the opportunity to focus on other endeavors that have always been more of a side project because of his teaching position.

He is the founder of Sinno Communication, a visual communication and consulting firm. Interestingly enough, the firm is run by all his family members; his wife, Melissa, owns the firm and his sons (all Clarke graduates including Melissa), provide consultations and services.

Yet, even with all of his teaching, his family business, and his published photography books, Sinno always finds time for what's most important: his family.

I consider myself extremely lucky to have been given the chance to learn from Sinno. I'm not sure if I've done him justice with my limited 750 words, but I can sum up what I'd like to say in two: "Thank You."

Prof shares spiritual journeys

Jenica Rubner
Staff Writer



Spirituality can be a journey literally and figuratively. That is what Dean Manternach, associate professor of religious studies Manternach at Clarke, told the audience in his Mackin-Mailander lecture March 17 in Jansen Music Hall. He discussed two spiritual pilgrimages he embarked on in recent years, and the impact they had on him spiritually while also touching on asking important life questions. "In love, in suffering we find beauty, purpose, God, and justice," he said.

Manternach often paused to share pieces of poetry and excerpts from his personal journal. He began with the story

of travelling to the western United States. There, he visited Kelly's place, a retreat center in Colorado where participants were asked to write their own eulogies and share them with the group.

It was this activity that encouraged him to think more about his life.

"Call to transformation is the heart of searching faith," he said. "So think about what eulogy you might give for yourself."

The group of people he was travelling with then went to Utah. They were sent out on a vision quest in a national park. He recounted the sights he saw while he wandered, including the birds in the pine trees and the boulder he sat by. Manternach admits he got lost multiple times. How-

ever, he did not get anxious but rather related it to Jesus's experience in the desert.

In spring 2013, Manternach took a sabbatical and went to Spain for yet another wandering experience.

He found himself on a journey on St. James Path, a 75-mile, five-day walk, to the St. James cathedral. This time there were arrows guiding him on his journey. During this time Manternach says he had to rely on the kindness of others.

He said when he returned home, the experience in Spain affected the way he taught and interacted both at Clarke and at home. Many questions remain about life that he extended to the audience.

"Who are you called to be, to give yourself more freely?" he asked in conclusion.

Courier

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Towfic, "a prof students could count on," retires

Michael Francis
Staff Writer

Professor Samira Towfic has been hard at work teaching for many years and now she is closing in on her final weeks as a professor of computer science at Clarke.



She will be retiring at the end of the year and looks forward to the upcoming time off. Towfic and her family grew up in Iraq after her great grandfather immigrated from Siirt, Turkey, in the late 1800's.

Towfic obtained her Master's Degree in applied mathematics from the University of Baghdad. She then earned her Ph.D. in computer science from Reading University in England. It was while studying for her Ph.D. that she met her husband, George, who was also getting his degree in Reading and now also teaches at Clarke.

Samira and George came to the United States in 1998 to teach at Wayne State University. "The chair of the computer science department at Wayne State expressed interest in research collaboration and offered to invite us to campus," Towfic said.

There are many other reasons why Samira chose to study computer science. "Computer science is where I enjoy working on applied mathematical problems related to set and game theory," she said. "These two areas have been and still are major research areas in both mathematics and computer science."

Bart Mazurek, senior computer information system major at Clarke, has had the pleasure of taking three courses with Towfic.

"Throughout my years at Clarke, Samira has been more than helpful and always gives

me the best advice. If there's ever an issue or problem I'm dealing with, I can always count on her to encourage me to keep working and push my skills to the max," said Bart.

Towfic has plenty she wants to do with her free time after retirement, including traveling to see her family, and increasing her community involvement. "The Dubuque community offers many opportunities for volunteers, especially as we embark on the summer months, and I also look forward to traveling and being with family across the United States," she said.

Currently Towfic volunteers at the Nativity Church where she does a variety of activities including helping out with the bingo events, participating in arranging and preparing banquets, spring and fall sales events, and meetings with the Rosary Society.

As a Eucharistic minister at the Nativity Church, I look forward to the opportunity to expand my participation at Nativity "said Towfic. "I also look forward to increasing my participation in activities as a BVM associate."

Towfic says that throughout her teaching career she has cherished many moments, and has been able to hold on to some special memories. Many of those memories involve forming new relationships and working with students.

"I enjoy moments when I feel a student has grasped a subject as a result of extra time spent in the lab or through small group instruction," she said.

Junior business administration major Brinsley Walker said, "In my first year at Clarke having Samira as a teacher has been a great experience and she has shown me ways to use important skills I will use in

my career which included using programs like excel and access databases."

Towfic has had a teaching career that differs from most. For the past 30 years she has had the opportunity to work with her husband, George Towfic, at Clarke. The two have enjoyed their experience together and both look forward to her retirement at the end of the year. "He is really looking forward to my retirement and has already planned a long to-do list he is hoping I can take care of now," said Towfic.

Although she has many plans for retirement, the Clarke professor said she is going to miss some things. "I know I will miss the culture of Clarke University; it's a family that I have had the pleasure of working with over the past years," said Towfic. "I am grateful for the time I have spent with Clarke and its wonderful students."

Redman pitches no-hitter

Michael Francis
Staff Writer

Senior Clarke pitcher Andrew Redman has accomplished many season highs this year and has broken 10 of his personal bests in the month of April alone. These include number of hits, runs scored, and recorded strikeouts where he put away 14 batters on April 6 against rival Mount Mercy University.

One rare performance this year was when he pitched a no-hitter against William Penn. This was only the fifth time this milestone has been accomplished in Clarke history.

"As a pitcher I know how hard it is to throw a game like he did, and I hope one day I am lucky enough to achieve the same thing," said junior left handed pitcher Juan Munoz.

Throughout the years baseball has always been Andrew's main focus; however, he has played basketball, track, and golf.

Andrew went off to junior college to play for Fort Dodge, and although enjoying his years there, it also made him appreciate his hometown of Dubuque even more.

He decided to come play for Clarke for many reasons and Coach Dan Spain had a lot to do with his decision. "I liked the opportunity to play for a



great person like Dan Spain. I've known him for a lot of years and I was excited to be part of his first true team," said Andrew.

It has been an up and down career for Andrew at Clarke; he has had to deal with injury and missed most of all last season.

This year he has driven in 42 RBI's, hit seven home runs, and has a batting average of .412 on the season.

Very unlikely for a pitcher to do so well with the bat; however, that's no problem for this all-around skilled athlete.

Andrew is also having his best year pitching on the mound with a low earned run average of 1.94. He has pitched in seven games with a record of six wins, one loss, and 45 recorded strikeouts so far on the year."

It is looking like Andrew

will end his career for Clarke with his name at the top of the record books. He is currently first in lowest earned run average, and second in most strikeouts, combined shutouts, fewest walks allowed, lowest opponent batting average, and career wins.

"It has been a great experience playing with such a talented player my first year at Clarke," said freshman pitcher Israel Foster. "He motivates and pushes the guys on the team to always work hard, and he is a great leader for us on and off the field."

"I'm not totally sure what my future plans are yet," said Andrew. "I'll have a degree in business administration so I'm going to try to find something local. I have a lot of family in Dubuque. I love it here."

Clarke grad makes his way in independent leagues

Jayson Hinrichsen
Staff Writer

One of the best baseball players to attend Clarke University. Rolando Sanchez, who graduated in 2013, recently signed his second professional baseball contract. Since graduating from Clarke, Rolando has been pursuing his dream and has started playing in independent leagues.

He was an all-star catcher on the baseball team at Clarke. In 2013 Rolando won a Golden Glove award and was also part of a team that set many Clarke records.

"I still keep in contact with a lot of my good friends from Clarke," says Rolando.

After graduation, Rolando moved back home and got a job in the off-season working at 24 Hour Fitness and coaching baseball at his alma mater in San Diego.

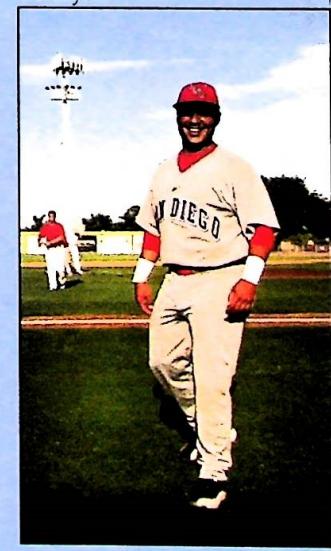
This season Rolando signed a professional baseball contract with the Greys Harbor Gulls in Washington State in the Rainier Professional baseball league. While experiencing many ups and downs, Rolando has never given up, "I am very determined to make this dream become a reality," Rolando says. "All the hard

work is finally paying off."

Since moving back to California Rolando says he misses the cheap gas prices and the low cost of living in Iowa.

"California is a very expensive place to live," he notes.

He appreciates how his experience at Clarke has helped shape his future. "Clarke baseball has taught me many things that now help me with my professional career as well as how to be a good person," he says.



2013 Clarke grad Rolando Sanchez in San Diego.

EXTRAS

On the Street

Jayson Hinrichsen
Staff Writer



What will you miss most about Clarke?

I will miss all the best friends who I have made over the years.

Playing baseball.

How it was community oriented and everyone knew you by your first name.

I will miss all the friends that I made while attending Clarke.

What do you regret not doing?

Not trying harder in class.

I don't have any regrets.

I don't have any regrets except for the changing seasons in Iowa and the small town since I am from California.

I have zero regrets.

Advice for freshmen?

Get out of your room and enjoy college.

Trust the process and control the controllable and everything will fall into place.

Seize every opportunity and create as many opportunities for success as you can.

Hit the books during the week, but enjoy yourself on the weekends because they will go fast.

What is your dream career?

Forensic psychologist.

To play professional baseball.

To become an owner of a business involving finance or fitness.

To work in public relations for a professional sports team.

On Other Campuses

Jenica Rubner
Staff Writer

Bethune-Cookman University is being sued for not allowing a woman who attended the college to audition for the dance team in 2009. Phyliss Davis-Bowens says the coach of the school's 14 Karat Gold Dancers, who perform at campus sporting events, denied her a tryout until she lost 20 pounds. Davis-Bowens lost 16 pounds in one month, but was still denied a tryout. Eventually, she lost 60 pounds the following year. She claims that the major weight loss is affecting her health today. "I wanted to join because of my talent but the coach said I didn't have the body type. But to me, I have two arms and two legs, which is what I needed."

A Dartmouth College fraternity has been asked to shut down following the branding of 11 students. Alpha Delta fraternity could be facing a harsh penalty for the branding it imposed on new students in November. An attorney for the fraternity has spoken out, saying the branding was "self-expression." "Brothers and new members acknowledged understanding of the health risks involved and described the advice they shared with one another about self-care of their burns," a letter from the college to the fraternity said.

— *Huffington Post*.

Culinary School

Continued from page one

Miles Breed, director of Clarke dining services, provided as much guidance to Reid as he could and shared his own experiences.

"I didn't try to steer Reid's decision, but I did tell him how much value I feel a culinary education from the CIA has and how much it meant to me," Breed said. "It is an experience second to none, but means nothing if the person receiving that education doesn't have the passion to go along with it."

Breed is confident Reid will get a quality education because of the education he received at the Culinary Institute.

"Reid is about to get the best formal education available in the culinary arts," he said. "While nothing beats hands on, real-life experience in the culinary field, Reid is going to be immersed in all things culinary."

Tinder

Continued from page one

Keep that in mind next time you see the picture of the love of your life. According to TheChive.com, the top three attention getters on Tinder are humor, 11 percent, clever openings, 17 percent, and good-looking profile pictures, 72 percent. Clarke students have mixed reactions to the app:

"I have never used Tinder and have no desire to use it in the future. Tinder just rubs me the wrong way and there is too much room for something to go wrong such as talking to someone claiming to be someone else or someone finding out important information about me." — Natascha Myers, music/psychology major

"I do not use Tinder because it is creepy. You never know who you are really talking to. People get cat fished all the time. I do have friends that use Tinder, but I still choose not to" — Megan Dauphin, nursing major

"I used it awhile back except I only used to see if my friends were using it. I made no relationships while using the app." — Kevin Murphy, communication

"I downloaded the app because all my friends were using it. I started getting matches with hot girls! I felt like the man. I actually got to meet a couple of them who were not men. If you ask me, it's a great way to meet girls who I probably wouldn't have had the chance to meet." — Michael Poteet, accounting major

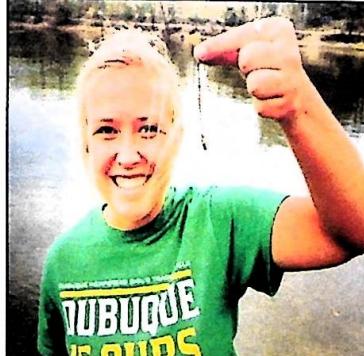
"When I first moved to Dubuque in the fall, I started using the app. I stopped because I didn't think I would find a quality girl on there. It's a pretty shallow app if you ask me." — Kairee Tekra, business major

One last thing...

What is the last picture in your phone's camera roll?



Kelsey Ewing, junior communication major took a selfie with a cat at the Dubuque Arboretum.



Jenny Schlueter, junior psychology major, presents her prize fish.

Jayson Hinrichsen
Staff Writer